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ESTONIAN AND LATVIAN
PRODUCTION METHODS CRITICIZED

ESTONIAN PRODUCTION LAGS -- Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 120, 24 May 49

During the first quarter of 1949 the quality of industrial products has been improved, particularly by the following enterprises: "Punane Kunda" Plant, "Marat" Factory, "Khelios" Plant, TEP (Electrical Precision Instrument), and others.

However, the increase in industrial production during the last 4 months is not sufficient to guarantee fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan by the Estonian SSR in 4 years. The quantity of production during the first quarter of 1949 was 4.7 percent lower than that achieved in the last quarter of 1948, and the April 1949 quantitative output exceeded the March level by only 0.9 percent. In order to fulfill the Five-Year Plan in 4 years, it would be necessary to raise the production level 20 percent over April 1949.

A number of enterprises failed to meet not only their socialist pledges, but also the basic State plan. These enterprises include: Tallin Locomotive and Railroad Car Repair Plant, "Kiviyl" Combine, Mines No 10 and 6, "Estonenergo," and others.

Many enterprises consistently failed to complete the plan for quantity of production. These include: "Tootsi" Peat Briquette Plant, "Estonslantestroy" Brick Plant of the Ministry of Coal Industry, "Funane RST" Plant -- for radio receivers, "Union" Factory -- for leather shoes, and "Ader" Plant -- for plows and sowing machines.

A number of enterprises have done little to improve the quality of their products. The quality of shale produced by the "Kiviyl" Combine Mine and by Mine No 10 continues to be low. There are considerable losses through waste in enterprises of the Ministry

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of Local Industry and Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry Estonian SSR. The Plywood and Furniture Factory has accumulated unsold goods worth over 3 million rubles. About 1,000 potato diggers produced by the ERSPO Plant have been lying idle for more than a year. As a result of such poor operation, a number of enterprises are in a difficult financial situation.

LATVIA NEEDS RESEARCH CENTER -- Sovetskaya Latvija, No 8, 11 Jan 49

Although the Five-Year Plan calls for the development of industrial technology, advanced methods have not received wide application in Latvian industry. The anode-machine sharpening method has only begun to be used in Latvia, despite the fact that many enterprises in other republics of the USSR adopted this method in 1946. The electrical erosion metal-working method is seldom used in Riga plants, but it has long been in use in other parts of the country. Production of cast tools, chill casting under pressure, and knurling of threads are almost entirely unheard of in Riga plants. Not only are speed methods of metal working not applied in many Latvian plants outside of Riga, but these plants do not even have a clear idea of these methods.

Several Riga plants have developed improved industrial techniques. However, the absence of an experimental station has prevented the complete solution of problems at hand. An experimental testing center should be established in Riga which could service industrial enterprises with qualified technical information, with consultations on scientific and technical problems, and also conduct all necessary experiments and research.

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